

LAWRENCE Y D HO & ASSOCIATES PTE LTD

LAWRENCE Y.D. HO
B.Sc., M.B.A., J.D.

GEORGE D. LIU
B.A. M.Sc., PhD & JD

ADRION YAP
B.E.E., LL.B.

THI D. DANG
B.Sc., J.D.

CHAN KAY MIN
B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.

SERENA Y.H. WU
LL.B. (National Taiwan University)

JC14

Provides services on International
Intellectual Property Matters including
Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights &
Related Litigation.

Provides Advisory Services on
Technology Transfer.

10/535170

PCT/PTO 16 MAY 2005

14 October 2003

A Sen
Australian Patent Office
P O Box 200
Woden, ACT 2606
AUSTRALIA

By Mail & Facsimile
+ 61(2)6285-3929
Five pages total

Dear Sir or Madam

Thrd
Re: Response to ~~Second~~ Written Opinion
PCT Patent Application No: PCT/SG03/00078
Applicant: Malaysia Woodworking Pte Ltd
Title: Fabrication of Hollow Door Using Modular Panel Rib Components
Made from Scrap Wood
Our ref: 1237.P004PCT/CKM

We refer to the above PCT patent application and the written opinion dated 25 September 2003 and thank you for finding the present invention to be novel, industrially applicable and inventive with respect to all but two of the claims.

We would like to delete the two claims in question (Claims 9 and 19). Attached is our response to the written opinion and the replacement pages for the amended claim set.

We now trust that all the remaining claims are novel, inventive and industrially applicable.

Thank you and kind regards.

Yours sincerely
LAWRENCE Y D HO & ASSOCIATES PTE LTD


Chan Kay Min

Encl: Response to Third Written Opinion for PCT/SG03/00078
Replacement pages for amended claim set

SINGAPORE OFFICE: 30 BIDEFORD ROAD, #07-01 THONGSIA BUILDING, SINGAPORE 229922.
TEL: 65-6734 8523 FAX: 65-6734 8521 / 6732 3188 (Int'l Dept.) EMAIL: info@patents.com.sg WEBSITE: www.patents.com.sg

MALAYSIA OFFICE: SUITE 8.02, 8TH FLOOR, PLAZA FIRST NATIONWIDE, 161 JLN TUN H. S. LEE
50000 KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA. EMAIL: lawrence.ho@patents.com.my WEBSITE: www.patents.com.my

Response to Third Written Opinion for PCT/SG03/00078

We thank the examiner for his comments and for finding Claims 1-8 and 10-18 inventive. We have also taken note of the reiteration of his previous arguments.

We concur with the examiner's statement in Section V of the Written Opinion on the lack of inventiveness in Claims 9 and 19 and have deleted them. We have also renumbered the remaining claims accordingly. Replacement sheets for the amended claim set are attached according to PCT Rule 66.8.

While we have deleted old Claims 9 and 19, we respectfully maintain our stand that the method of fabricating hollow wood structures such as doors and the products produced according to the method are novel and inventive.

Our arguments submitted previously are applicable: whilst persons skilled in the art may seek to minimize cost by maximizing materials used, they do not use scrap wood in the way taught by the present invention. Scrap wood is always seen as waste destined for the rubbish dump, the incinerator, or the wood pulping plant.

For pieces of wood large enough to be thought useful (in the prior art), they are not considered as scrap wood for disposal. As previously submitted, in the prior art, small pieces of wood are not used as structural members in the fabrication of furniture and furnishings. Also, in the field of hollow doors, the trend points away from the use of scrap wood pieces as modular components.

Thus, while we have taken note of the examiner's comments, we respectfully maintain that the present invention is novel, inventive and has industrial application.

Thank you.

CLAIMS

1. A method of fabricating hollow doors of wood material with at least one panel rib joined from modular components rendered from scrap wood material, said modular components comprising engagement members, complementary engagement members and connecting means.
2. A method in accordance to Claim 1, said joining of said panel rib's said engagement members and said complementary engagement members do not require adhesive due to complementary structures of said engagement members and said complementary engagement members.
3. A method in accordance to Claim 1, said method further comprises joining modular components of inadequate individual dimensions to form a panel rib, such that panel ribs of adequate dimensions may be fabricated.
4. The method according to Claim 1, wherein said engagement members and said complementary engagement members comprise notched components that can be joined one to another.
5. A method in accordance to Claim 1, said method further comprises assembling a latticework comprising panel ribs formed from modular components, and other components formed from non-scrap wood material.
6. A method in accordance to Claim 5, said method of assembling said latticework may be performed within a frame for a hollow door.
7. A method in accordance to Claim 5, said method of assembling said latticework may be performed before placing said latticework into a frame for a hollow door.

8. A method in accordance to Claim 5, said method of assembling said latticework permit latticeworks of different configurations to be readily formed.
9. A hollow door of wood material with at least one panel rib joined from modular components rendered from scrap wood material, said modular components comprising engagement members, complementary engagement members and connecting means.
10. A hollow door in accordance to Claim 9, said joining of said panel rib's said engagement members and said complementary engagement members do not require adhesive due to complementary structures of said engagement members and said complementary engagement members.
11. A hollow door in accordance to Claim 9, said panel rib further comprises modular components of inadequate individual dimensions to form said panel rib, wherein joining of said modular components allow panel ribs of adequate dimensions to be fabricated.
12. A hollow door in accordance to Claim 9, said engagement members and said complementary engagement members comprise notched components that can be joined one to another.
13. A hollow door in accordance to Claim 9, said connecting means comprise fasteners.
14. A hollow door in accordance to Claim 9, said hollow door further comprises a latticework of panel ribs formed from modular components, and other components formed from non-scrap wood material.
15. A hollow door in accordance to Claim 14, said latticework may be assembled within a frame for a hollow door.

16. A hollow door in accordance to Claim 14, said latticework may be pre-assembled before placing said latticework into a frame for a hollow door.
17. A hollow structure with at least one panel rib formed from at least one modular component made from scrap wood material.